

State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JON S. CORZINE

Governor

LISA P. JACKSON

Commissioner

MAR 3 1 2008

Mr. George Pavlou, Director Emergency and Remedial Response Division United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region II 290 Broadway New York, New York 10007-1866

Re: Superfund Site Tracking and Remedial Progress

Dear Mr. Pavlou:

I am writing in response to your letter of February 5, 2007 to provide an update on remedial progress at Superfund sites on the National Priorities List (NPL) where the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provides lead oversight with support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Since renewed efforts began in April 2007, DEP and EPA continue to make progress in their actions to attain a final construction completion milestone at the 14 Superfund sites noted in your letter that have been on the NPL prior to 1986.

Recently, the two agencies met on March 5, 2008 to update project schedules for the 14 sites and discuss new support from EPA remedial project managers assigned from Region II's New York Remediation Branch to work on four of the pre-1986 DEP-lead sites and one site recently added to the NPL. In addition, DEP and EPA managers worked on developing methods to address land use concerns encountered during remedial work and other permitting compliance issues. Finally, agency managers discussed your issue of EPA assuming the lead oversight role for nine of the 14 pre-1986 DEP-lead sites. At the recent meeting, EPA stated it intends to pursue the lead role with the various responsible parties now conducting remedial work at the nine sites under state enforcement actions. DEP will continue to work with the parties involved to ensure remedial progress continues at these NPL sites.

Overall, the nearly year-long effort by the two agencies to improve management of remedial work at the 14 sites is a positive achievement that has brought us closer to construction complete milestones. Specifically, on the three sites of particular interest to you – PJP Landfill, Global Sanitary Landfill and Landfill & Development (L&D) Company – I am pleased to note that DEP believes remedial work is on track to meet the individual construction complete schedules. Construction at PJP is scheduled to begin spring 2008. Global is scheduled to start in early 2009. Property purchases/new wells offered for residents nearby L&D should be accepted by the end of 2008. At the recent meeting, EPA indicated these three sites along with Price's Landfill and Combe Fill South Landfill will remain as DEP-lead sites.

It is important to note that DEP provided the lead to EPA in 2007 for final cleanup work at two additional publicly funded sites, Imperial Oil and Syncon Resins, where remedial work requires significant federal and state funding. It was determined that the best method to meet the funding needs for both sites is through incremental funding as federal lead sites. I fully support funding Imperial Oil site's final cleanup project this year to address the source of contamination in the Marlboro Township neighborhood where the business has since filed for bankruptcy. At Syncon Resins, DEP supports continued plans to remove on-site buildings and development of an appropriate soil cleanup alternative for large quantities of PCB contamination that remain on site.

DEP and EPA plan to periodically update the remedial progress schedules for the 14 sites, conduct site visits and case team meetings as needed, as well as raise any concerns to upper management to avoid significant delays that may affect meeting construction complete milestones. Also, DEP is reviewing schedules you sent for EPA-lead sites that are maintained in your CERCLIS database for discussion at a future meeting between agencies.

I look forward to our continued coordination of cleanup actions at these NPL sites. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these issues in further detail, please call me at (609) 292-1250.

Sincerely.

Irene S. Kropp, Assistant Commissioner

Site Remediation Program

C: Ed Putnam, NJDEP Len Romino, NJDEP Fred Mumford, NJDEP Carole Petersen, USEPA John Lapadula, USEPA